



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending August 10, 2008

GENERALLY DRY WEATHER PATTERN CONTINUES

With only scattered rainfall and high temperatures this past week, farmers across the State need rain for both crops and pastures. Topping of tobacco made good progress last week, while harvest got underway on a limited basis. Currently, almost all of the cotton crop is setting bolls and is in mostly good condition. Soybean development trailed closely behind the normal pace and the crop was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition. Although over half of the corn crop has entered the dent stage, development trailed the normal pace by nearly a week. Over a quarter of the acreage used as silage has been harvested. Pasture conditions deteriorated slightly last week, but continued to be rated mostly fair-to-good.

There were six days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 18 percent very short, 39 percent short, 42 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 26 percent very short, 39 percent short, 34 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures across Tennessee last week averaged near normal with average highs ranging from the mid 80s to lower 90s. Weekly precipitation totals averaged around one-tenth of an inch across the middle and eastern thirds of the State with as much as two inches or more reported at some West Tennessee locations.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Dough	90	82	94	95	Corn	3	11	32	43	11
Corn – Dent	53	36	80	75	Cotton	1	8	32	55	4
Corn – Silage Harvested	26	10	40	27	Hay	7	17	38	34	4
Cotton – Setting Bolls	96	83	95	95	Pastures	9	21	42	27	1
Soybeans – Blooming	87	80	92	88	Soybeans	6	16	32	40	6
Soybeans – Setting Pods	71	61	80	73	Tobacco	1	5	24	56	14
Tobacco – Topped	55	44	61	65						

County Agent Comments

“Corn is beginning to show signs of maturing particularly in drought stressed areas of field. Early maturing varieties are beginning to fire up on lower leaves. Early planted soybeans are looking relatively good in spite of short rainfall conditions. Many early planted beans are at fungicide application stage or beyond. Insect pressure in beans remains relatively light. Wheat beans are suffering from lack of moisture resulting in poor stands and poor growth. Beans cover wheat straw where moisture has been good and still struggling to rise above straw in drought stricken areas of fields. All crops are beginning to show stronger signs of drought stress in all situations especially in weaker areas of fields. Crops under irrigation are looking good. What we need the most at this point is a good soaking rain.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“The farmers in Fayette County were blessed with some rain later in the week but before this, conditions were hot and humid!!! Temperatures were in the upper 90's and lower 100's. Crops are in fair to good condition. Farmers were spraying beans and cutting hay.”

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

“1.5 to 3 inches of rain over the county have refreshed crops and grazing. Producers have a different outlook, compared with two days ago.”

Ken Burress, Wayne County

“As location is important in the housing market, so it is in terms of rainfall received in Rutherford County. Yesterday (8-7-08) some rain gauges measured up to 1.5 inches of rain where others didn't register any. Some areas are in pretty good shape moisture wise and others aren't.”

Mitchell Mote, Rutherford County

“A week of high temperatures and no rain has all crops; both forage and row crops, showing drought stress. Pasture and hay fields were drying out fast toward the end of the week. Some producers have started harvesting corn silage from early planted fields. Producers took advantage of good drying conditions to make excellent progress with second cutting hay harvest. Generally, cattle are in good condition with adequate grazing available.”

Bob Sliger, Monroe County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: August 10, 2008 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending August 10, 2008				Current Week 8/10/08	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	100	57	79	0	0.74	1	40.15	6.75	24.47	5.02
Tri-City_RGNL_A	90	54	74	-2	0.30	2	22.57	-4.01	11.65	-4.45
Brownsville_TN	96	61	79	-2	2.05	2	36.54	3.11	20.29	0.82
Chattanooga/Lov	97	62	81	3	0.00	0	26.85	-7.24	12.71	-5.48
Clarksville_Sew	97	59	78	1	0.00	0	32.51	0.63	19.38	1.32
Cookeville	94	53	75	-2	0.89	2	29.68	-6.55	16.76	-4.27
Covington	96	60	78	-2	1.29	1	35.85	3.06	20.19	1.26
Crossville_AP	92	55	74	1	0.12	2	29.22	-6.55	16.05	-4.52
Dayton	96	60	78	2	0.00	0	25.94	-9.68	13.64	-5.78
Dickson_AG	97	57	77	-2	0.20	1	34.50	0.34	19.58	-0.40
Dover_1W	97	60	79	3	0.00	0	36.34	3.19	18.98	-0.10
Dyersburg	99	59	80	0	1.94	1	28.99	-2.81	15.45	-3.37
Erwin_1W	91	55	73	2	0.40	1	23.34	-8.81	13.55	-6.95
Huntingdon_Wate	97	58	79	1	0.20	1	37.14	3.84	20.54	1.16
Jackson_Exp_Stn	98	59	79	1	1.58	2	44.47	11.25	25.75	5.96
Kingston_AG	96	60	77	2	0.27	1	28.93	-8.60	16.07	-5.21
Knoxville_AP	92	60	78	2	0.00	0	28.33	-2.73	16.11	-1.49
Lewisburg	97	54	76	-2	0.27	1	28.28	-6.98	16.48	-4.04
Lexington_TN	97	59	78	0	0.94	1	43.90	11.47	26.54	7.46
Linden	97	54	77	0	1.04	2	40.24	4.74	23.15	2.81
Martin	97	58	79	2	0.00	0	36.33	2.72	18.49	-1.71
Mc_Minnville_Tn	97	60	78	2	0.11	1	22.29	-11.97	12.20	-7.47
Memphis_AG	99	61	81	-2	0.48	2	41.18	8.68	23.88	5.05
Milan	98	56	78	2	0.22	2	41.11	6.93	23.96	3.57
Murfreesboro_5N	98	55	78	0	0.00	0	27.48	-6.23	15.33	-4.44
Nashville_Metro	97	61	80	2	0.00	0	32.37	2.09	19.55	1.66
Newcomb	90	54	73	1	0.28	2	26.53	-8.52	16.00	-5.03
Oneida	90	55	74	1	0.30	2	21.54	-13.51	15.81	-5.22
Portland_TN	94	60	77	1	0.00	0	35.86	2.90	21.55	2.05
Pulaski_Water_P	96	57	76	-3	2.47	1	35.69	0.74	21.62	2.24
Savannah_6SW	96	57	78	-2	1.23	1	41.42	5.18	24.37	3.77
Sparta_TN	95	53	77	2	0.09	1	32.38	-2.84	20.36	-0.14
Springfield	95	56	76	-1	0.04	1	34.91	3.17	21.45	2.74
Springhill	97	55	77	-1	0.04	1	29.43	-5.83	17.80	-2.67
Union_City	94	56	77	-1	0.00	0	32.93	0.25	16.73	-2.60
Waynesboro_TN	97	58	78	2	0.64	1	33.97	-3.13	19.77	-1.37

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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